

Frank J. Magill, Acting United States Attorney

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist (612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

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News Release

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Minneapolis man pleads guilty to producing child pornography

Protecting children from sexual exploitation is the primary goal of Project Safe Childhood, a national initiative that encourages the use of multi-jurisdictional task forces to investigate and prosecute cases that involve the sexual exploitation of children over the Internet.

One investigation has led to a guilty plea entered this week in federal court by a 51-year-old Minneapolis man. Kris Alan Hahn pleaded guilty April 29 to one count of production of child pornography before United States District Court Judge Michael Davis in Minneapolis. Hahn was charged March 25.

According to Hahn's plea agreement, from March 2006 through Dec. 6, 2006, he persuaded a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct and took pictures of the sexually explicit conduct. Hahn also admitted that the material had been transported over the Internet.

Hahn faces a potential maximum penalty of 30 years in prison. Judge Davis will determine Hahn's sentence at a future date. This case is the result of an investigation by the Minneapolis Police Department, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tricia A. Tingle.

Project Safe Childhood (PSC) urges that law enforcement efforts be complemented by community-wide campaigns to assist victims of exploitation and to educate parents, other adults, and children about Internet safety.

More than 20,000 images of child pornography are posted on the Internet every week. Recent research conducted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons indicates a strong correlation between possessing or distributing child pornography and committing sexual-contact crimes against children.